

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Parish Office: St Mary's Cathedral, James's Street, Kilkenny
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Rev Dermot Ryan, Adm. Email: dermotryan@ossory.ie
7th December 2025 – Second Sunday of Advent

A thought... This past week we had the Feast day of St Francis Xavier, a man who was one of the seven founding members of the Jesuits. A young man from Spain, he travelled to Paris to study and while there encountered St Ignatius of Loyola and they, with others, took on a life of poverty and commitment to following Christ. St Francis is credited with bringing large portions of Asia to Christianity - he is the patron saint of the missions today. Thinking about this, it occurs to me that each of us, as part of our baptism, were blessed on our ears and mouth - to hear and proclaim our faith... We are all supposed to be missionaries even at home - how are you doing at that task?
Fr Dermot

Please remember the following in your prayers

Recently deceased:

11.00am – Tony Murphy, Poulgour, Mary Doheny, Rioch Tce, Tommy & Agnes O'Neill, Rothe Tce, Kitty & Christy Galvin.
5.30pm-Jack Egan, Rothe Tce and those whose anniversaries occur about this time Paul Slattery, Mary McKee, Bess and Mick Delaney.

Weekly Collections

Envelopes: €325.00, Baskets €1,572.08. Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated.

November Offering

A gentle reminder to return you November offerings.

Medjugorje pilgrimage May 27th 2026, 7 nights, €949 pps (€849 if paid in full by Nov 3rd). Staying in Hotel Leone (half board). Spiritual Director Fr Ted Sheehan. Group Leader Sean O'Shaughnessy 0862959380 / medjugorjecork@icloud.com or contact JWT on 01 2410800.

Art and Architecture - A pilgrimage exploring God's Gifts

Next year the Adult Faith Development Group are holding a pilgrimage to Northern Italy (Padua, Venice & Bologna) March 20th-26th exploring faith by means of reflecting upon some of the many wonderful pieces of art scattered throughout these cities. Italy is blessed with a remarkable array of religious art - frescos, paintings, sculptures, mosaics and stuccos. This pilgrimage will explore the religious and catechetical meaning of some of these masterpieces. Details in parishes on posters or by email afd@ossory.ie or call 057 93 55050.

The Kilkenny Choir presents A Choral Christmas on Sunday 14th December at 4.30pm in St. John's Church. Conductor Patrick Rafter. Tickets €20 on Eventbrite or www.thekilkennychoir.com

Reshaping Structures - Parishes and Dioceses - opportunities to collaborate

All of our parishes have begun to collaborate in our Pastoral Areas. This exciting development allows for the sharing of resources and ideas. In recent years Dioceses have started to come together in a similar fashion to be better able to serve the people in their care. Join with Very Rev Albert McDonnell and Ms Gemma Mulligan this evening to explore the possibilities of such collaborations on Monday 15th December at 7.30pm in St Kieran's College.

Discerning a Vocation to Religious/Consecrated Life

For Young Women (18-40yrs) who are discerning a Vocation to Religious/Consecrated Life, monthly meetings are held in Charleville Retreat Centre, Cork. The day includes prayer, talks, Holy Mass, Adoration and a chance to meet and chat with religious sisters of different communities. If interested in attending email womendiscern@corkandross.org

Kneelers

I am delighted that we had the remaining kneelers recovered in the Cathedral. There is no hardship in coming to pray here! We were able to do this thanks to your support of the parish and thanks to the many Friends of the Cathedral who through continuous, monthly, donations support the upkeep and improvement of the fabric of the Cathedral - a sincere thanks to all.

Patronage of Primary Schools

The current Department of Education survey on the future of patronage in the primary sector is important in that it will shape the discussion on primary school divesting for the years to come throughout the Republic of Ireland. It is important that those who wish for a change in patronage would have their voice heard. It is equally important that those who wish for a Catholic Education for their children and for those who would wish for sacramental preparation within school would have their voice heard also. For those reasons and to ensure that an accurate picture emerges, please participate in this survey if you are a parent or a prospective parent of a Primary school student. It can be accessed at www.gov.ie/primaryschool survey.

Candlelight Rosary Procession in honour of Our Lady from the Parade at 7.30pm on Monday, December 8th. Candles available at the parade. All welcome.

St Mary's Cathedral, Chapter House Bookshop

Range of Christmas Mass Bouquets, Christmas Cards, Cribs, Christmas Gifts now available. Open - Monday & Tuesday 9.30am - 1.00pm and Wednesday - Friday 9.30am - 5.00pm.

Readers Next Weekend 11.00am – C. Kabuika, 5.30pm – Sr. Nuala Eucharistic Ministers 11.00am-B. Quinn, D. Quinn, B. Dunphy: 5.30pm –R. Neary, B. Cagney.

YOUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPS: Sr Betty Cagney, Martina Lawlor

Contact: safeguardingstmarys@ossory.ie

If you, or anyone you know, has a Safeguarding concern please contact: **Diocesan Director of Safeguarding and Designated Liaison Person, DLP**, Ailish Higgins at 087 8021633

TUSLA: Kilkenny 052 6177302; Laois/Offaly 044 9353997; Waterford 053 9198201

An Garda Síochána: 1800 555 222 or your local Garda Station

Towards Healing Helpline: 1800 313416 www.towardshealing.ie

Towards Peace Helpline: 01 5053028 www.towardspeace.ie

Please consult the Diocesan website (www.ossory.ie) for all relevant documents and policies.

Invite your family members to support the Cathedral FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL at www.stmaryscathedral.ie/friends
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